DATE 1/20/09

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Hannah Ticknor. I'm 17 and I am against house bill 184.

I'm sure you know that we already have three songs that represent our state: a state song, a state ballad, and a state lullaby. This is already excessive.

There are four bill proposals this year for annual legislative sessions, but if we cut out all the excessive and unnecessary bills, like this one, then the legislative work should be able to be completed in the biennial sessions we already have. Unneeded proposals like this tap into your limited legislative time. It is estimated that it costs 2 to 3 thousand dollars to bring a proposal just as far as committee. Please ask yourselves if you had to pay for this, would it still be worth proposing? If not the taxpayers probably would not want to fund it either.

In his farewell address, George Washington stated, "Occupants of public office love power and are prone to abuse it". This is a generalization, but abuse to public office can be done by wasting legislative time and taxpayers dollars for unnecessary proposals and not thinking about the consequences that might arise from unnecessary bills.

As legislators you have a very limited amount of time to complete your very important job. Please send a message that you will always table useless bills right away, before any more tax-funded time or energy is spent on them.

Please vote against house bill 184.

Thank you for listening to my testimony. Hannah Ticknor ticknortribe@msn.com